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WALT DISNEY'S
JUNE
NO. 316
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DONALD DUCK
AND FRIENDS

Wow! I love dinosaurs! As a kid, I had more plastic dinosaur toys than any other kid on Earth, I'll bet. And I'm told my first word was *pachycephalosaurus!* Well, not really, but you get the idea.

The presence of dinosaurs played a large part in influencing my entertainment decisions. Dinosaur movies like *The Lost World* and *One Million Years B.C.* were must sees. The fact that they used dressed-up iguana lizards and the like for their dinosaur special effects was somewhat disappointing but did little to dampen my enthusiasm to any great degree. When Ray Harryhausen and others began producing movies with "real" dinosaurs, such as *The Valley of Gwangi,* well, I was in heaven!

Comic books featuring dinosaurs were prevalent in my youth and believe me, I wanted all of them. I scarcely missed an issue of *Turok, Son of Stone* and if *Batman* or *Superman* ever featured a dinosaur on a cover I had to have it. One series of particular interest, in retrospect, was DC's *Star Spangled War Stories,* which ran, in *every single issue* I ever bought, a lead story which featured the US Army or Marines landing on an uncharted island and having to fight dinosaurs. Although the plot never varied, the dinosaurs – as drawn by Ross Andru and Mike Esposito – did, and that was enough to keep me buying issue after issue.

Which brings us to this issue of *Donald Duck and Friends* and its lead story. As you've probably guessed by now, I'm also quite fond of science fiction adventure, space-travel stories, Gyro Gearloose's wacky inventions, and the artwork of the incomparable Marco Rota. And this issue's "World's Apart" has it all! Add in a great cover by Michel Nadorp and you truly cannot go wrong. Naturally, when I saw it I had to run it!

— John Clark

• IN THIS ISSUE •

***Donald Duck* WORLDS APART**
Story: Lars Jensen
Art: Marco Rota
Color: Egmont & S. Daigle-Leach
Lettering: Willie Schubert

***Mickey Mouse* THE HEADLESS WARRIOR**
Story: Paul Halas
Art: Xavi
Color: Barry Englin-Grossman
Lettering: Willie Schubert

***Junior Woodchucks* SURVIVAL IN THE WILD**
Story: Per Hedman
Art: Torres
Color: Janice Miller
Lettering: Susan Daigle-Leach

Front cover art by Michel Nadorp, color by Susan Daigle-Leach

NEXT ISSUE SHIPS WEEK OF JUNE 9TH
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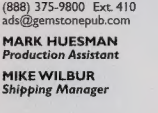

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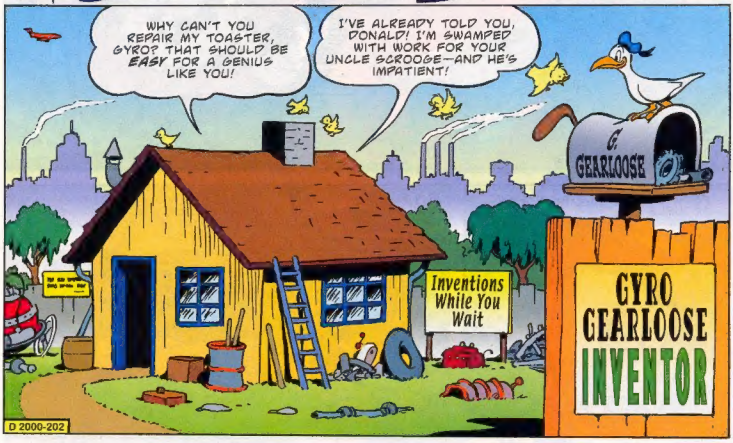
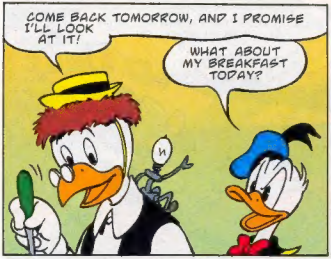
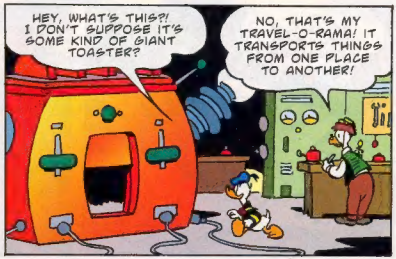
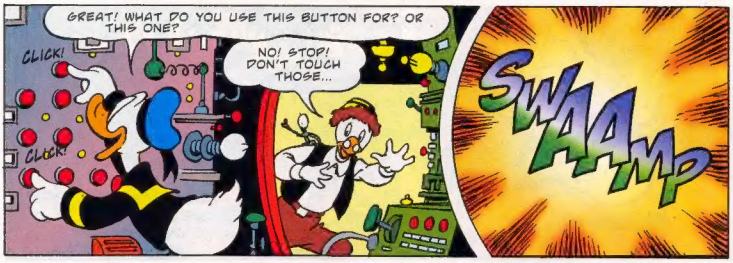
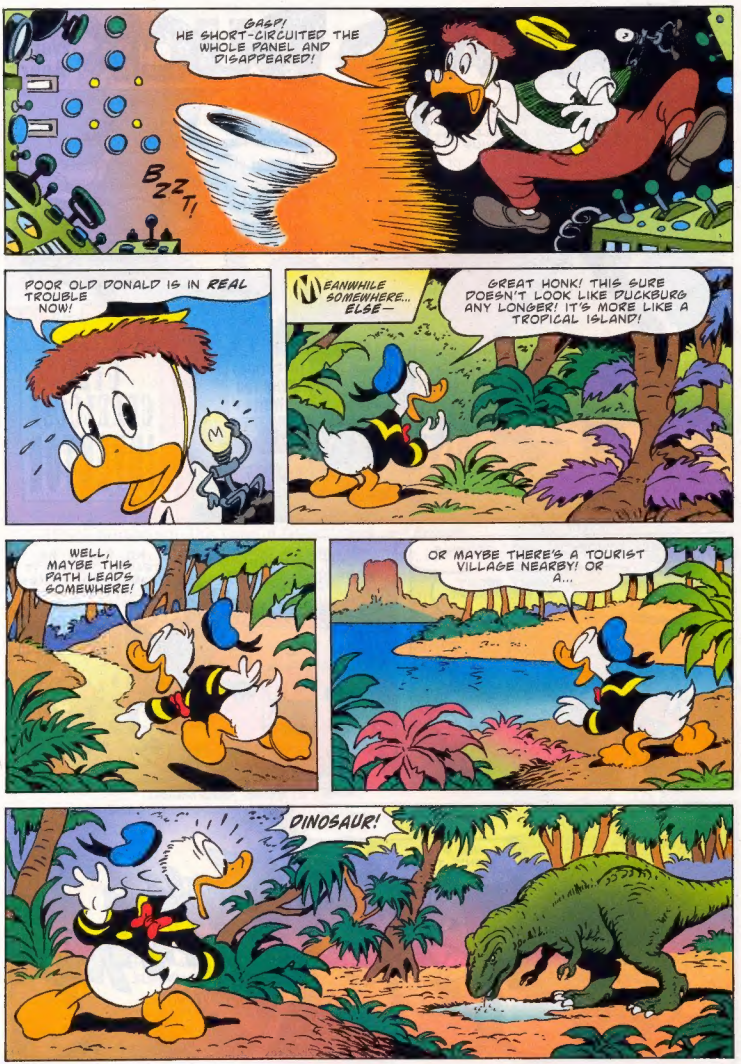
Walt Disney's DONALD DUCK 1rt Worlds Apart

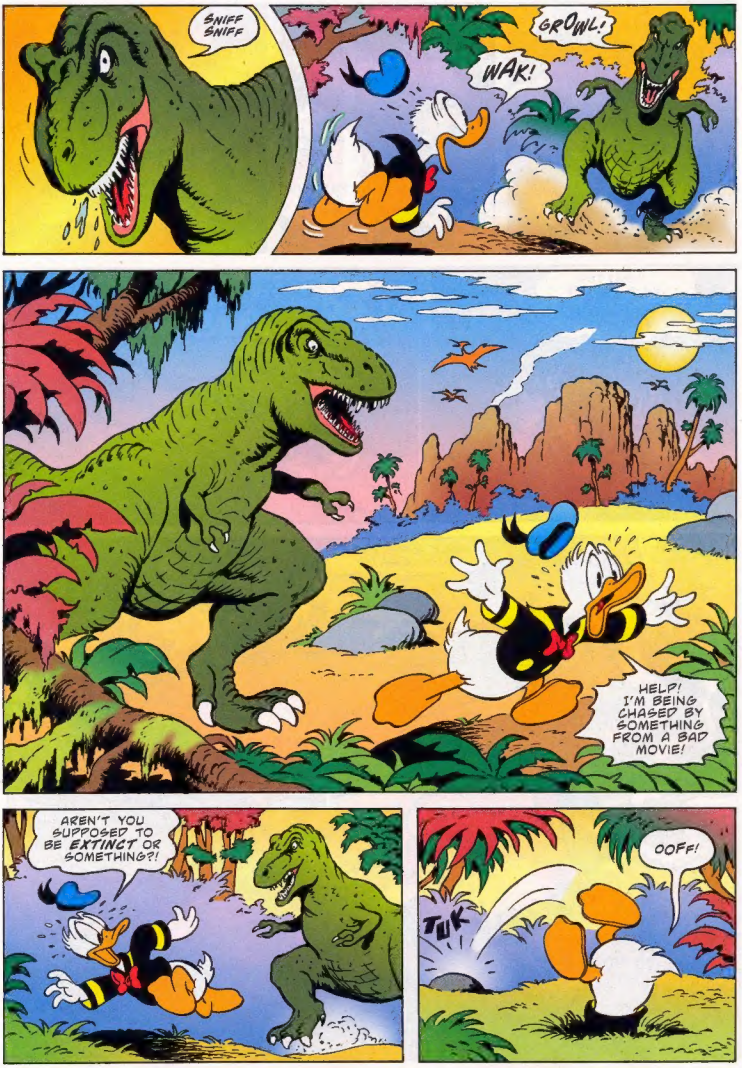

WHY CAN'T YOU REPAIR MY TOASTER, GYRO? THAT SHOULD BE EASY FOR A GENIUS LIKE YOU!
I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU, DONALD! I'M SWAMPED WITH WORK FOR YOUR UNCLE SCROOGE—AND HE'S IMPATIENT!
G. GEARLOOSE
Inventions While You Wait
GYRO GEARLOOSE INVENTOR
© 2000-202




HEY, WHAT'S THIS?! I DON'T SUPPOSE IT'S SOME KIND OF GIANT TOASTER?
NO, THAT'S MY TRAVEL-O-RAMA! IT TRANSPORTS THINGS FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER!

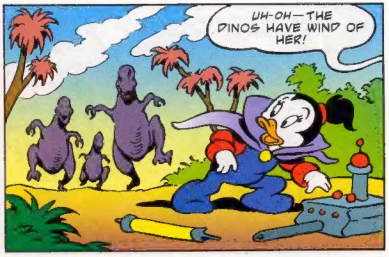



GASP! HE SHORT-CIRCUITED THE WHOLE PANEL AND DISAPPEARED!
BZZT!
POOR OLD DONALD IS IN REAL TROUBLE NOW!
MEANWHILE SOMEWHERE... ELSE—
GREAT HONK! THIS SURE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE DUCKBURG ANY LONGER! IT'S MORE LIKE A TROPICAL ISLAND!
WELL, MAYBE THIS PATH LEADS SOMEWHERE!
OR MAYBE THERE'S A TOURIST VILLAGE NEARBY! OR A...
DINOSAUR!

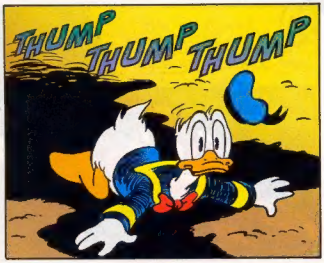

SNIFF SNIFF
WAK!
GROWL!
HELP! I'M BEING CHASED BY SOMETHING FROM A BAD MOVIE!
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE EXTINCT OR SOMETHING?!
TUK
OOFF!

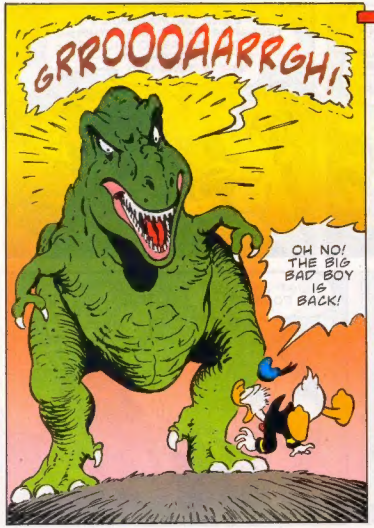
WELL, THIS IS DIFFER-ENT!
THUMP THUMP THUM
SOUNDS LIKE T-REX IS PASSING BY!
LOOKS LIKE HE'S MOVING ON! SPEAKING OF WHICH...
...I BETTER LEAVE BEFORE THAT DENTIST'S NIGHTMARE RETURNS!
I BET I CAN GET A BETTER IDEA OF WHERE I AM ON TOP OF THAT HILL!
HOLY HANNAH! A SPACESHIP!

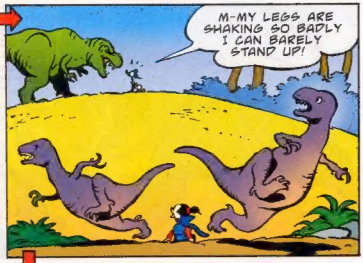
WELL, PICKLE ME AND CALL ME DILL! THERE'S A MEMBER OF THE CREW!

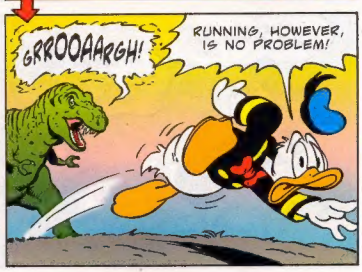

UH-OH— THE DINOS HAVE WIND OF HER!

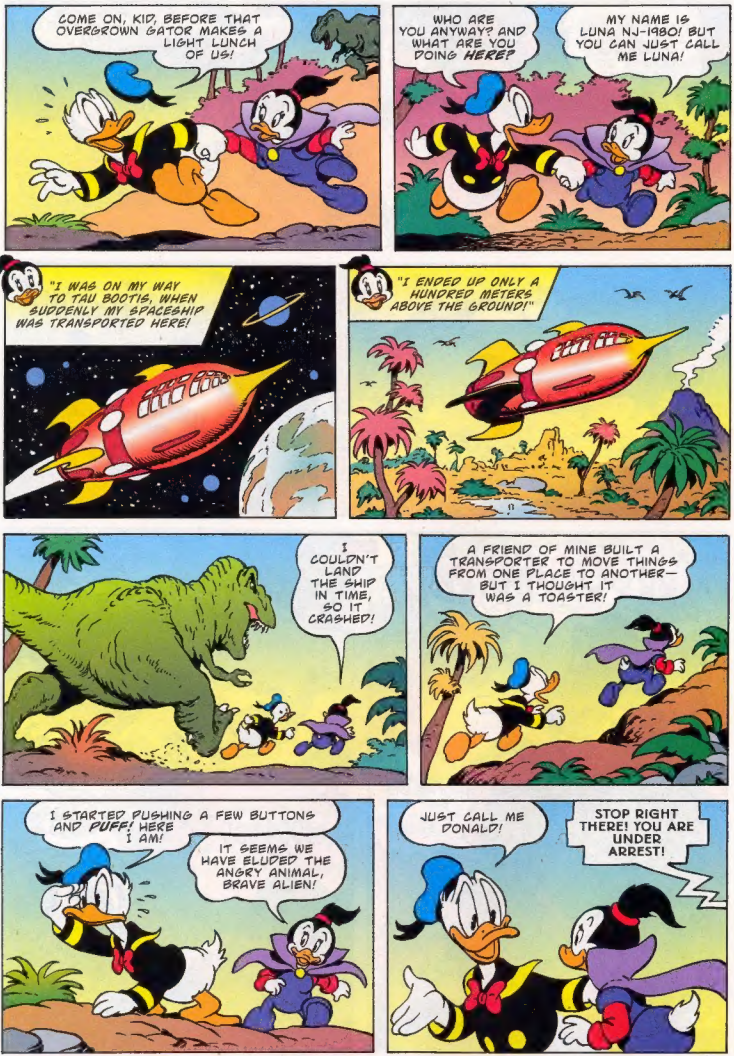
I'VE GOTTA HELP HER! ONLY QUESTION IS HOW?

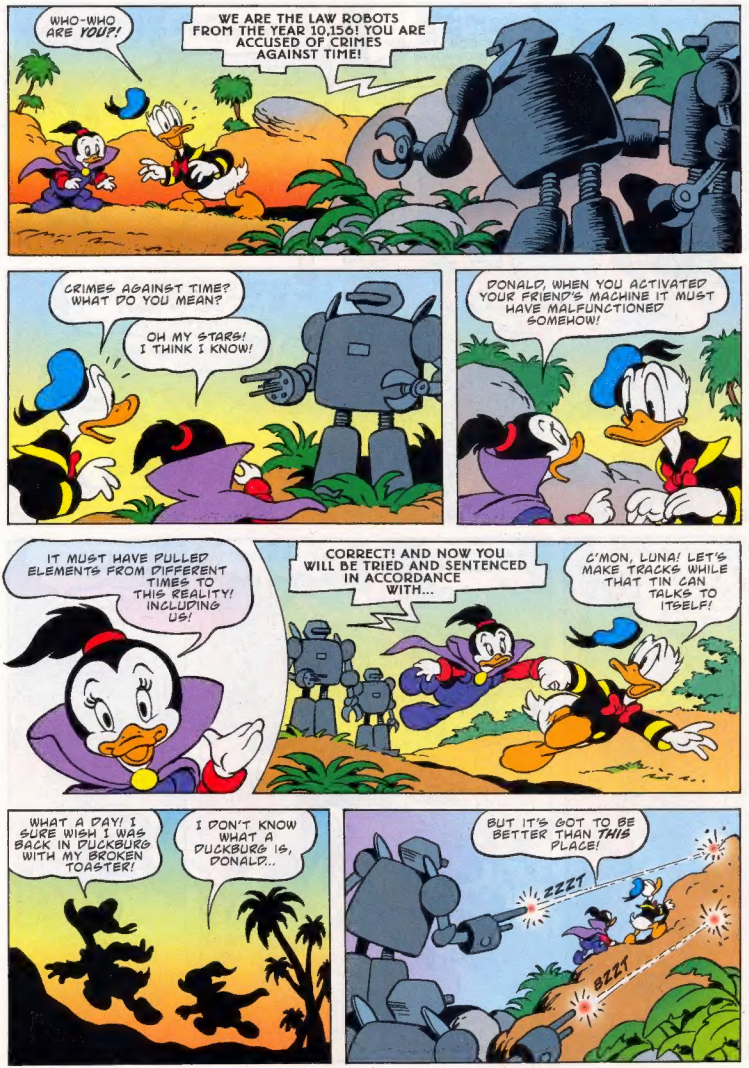

THUMP THUMP THUMP


GRROOOAARRGH!
OH NO! THE BIG BAD BOY IS BACK!


M-MY LEGS ARE SHAKING SO BADLY I CAN BARELY STAND UP!


GRROOAARGH!
RUNNING, HOWEVER, IS NO PROBLEM!


COME ON, KID, BEFORE THAT OVERGROWN GATOR MAKES A LIGHT LUNCH OF US!
WHO ARE YOU ANYWAY? AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
MY NAME IS LUNA NJ-1980! BUT YOU CAN JUST CALL ME LUNA!
"I WAS ON MY WAY TO TAU BOOTIS, WHEN SUDDENLY MY SPACESHIP WAS TRANSPORTED HERE!
"I ENDED UP ONLY A HUNDRED METERS ABOVE THE GROUND!"
I COULDN'T LAND THE SHIP IN TIME, SO IT CRASHED!
A FRIEND OF MINE BUILT A TRANSPORTER TO MOVE THINGS FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER— BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS A TOASTER!
I STARTED PUSHING A FEW BUTTONS AND PUFF! HERE I AM!
IT SEEMS WE HAVE ELUDED THE ANGRY ANIMAL, BRAVE ALIEN!
JUST CALL ME DONALD!
STOP RIGHT THERE! YOU ARE UNDER ARREST!


WHO-WHO ARE YOU?!
WE ARE THE LAW ROBOTS FROM THE YEAR 10,156! YOU ARE ACCUSED OF CRIMES AGAINST TIME!
CRIMES AGAINST TIME? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
OH MY STARS! I THINK I KNOW!
DONALD, WHEN YOU ACTIVATED YOUR FRIEND'S MACHINE IT MUST HAVE MALFUNCTIONED SOMEHOW!
IT MUST HAVE PULLED ELEMENTS FROM DIFFERENT TIMES TO THIS REALITY! INCLUDING US!
CORRECT! AND NOW YOU WILL BE TRIED AND SENTENCED IN ACCORDANCE WITH...
C'MON, LUNA! LET'S MAKE TRACKS WHILE THAT TIN CAN TALKS TO ITSELF!
WHAT A DAY! I SURE WISH I WAS BACK IN DUCKBURG WITH MY BROKEN TOASTER!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT A DUCKBURG IS, DONALD...
BUT IT'S GOT TO BE BETTER THAN THIS PLACE!
ZZZT
ZZZT

UP HERE WE'LL BE SAFE FROM ROBOTS AND DINOSAURS! I HOPE!
THANK YOU, DONALD!
GROAN! WHY, OH WHY DID I FIDDLE WITH GYRO'S MACHINE? I SHOULD KNOW BETTER!
DON'T WORRY! WE'LL GET OUT OF THIS SOME-HOW!
MAYBE IF WE CLIMB TO THE TOP OF THIS CLIFF WE'LL HAVE A BETTER IDEA OF WHERE WE ARE!
THAT'S THE SPIRIT!
THIS IS HARD!
EASY NOW! GRAB THAT ROCK THERE!
HELP! I'M FALLING!
GRAB MY HAND! GRAB MY HAND!
HOLD ON, LUNA!
THERE! WE'RE SAFE NOW!
THANKS, DONALD! THAT'S TWICE YOU'VE RESCUED ME!

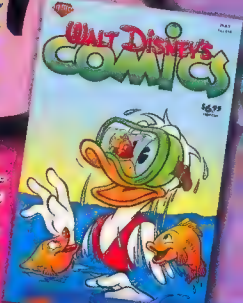
MY PLEASURE, I'M SURE!
HEY, WHAT'S THIS?
THUD
IT'S SOME KIND OF METAL PLATE!
IT'S A MEMENTO FROM HOME! MY FAMILY GAVE IT TO ME!
FINALLY! ONLY A FEW MORE STEPS AND WE'RE AT THE TOP!
OH NO!
WE'RE SURROUNDED!

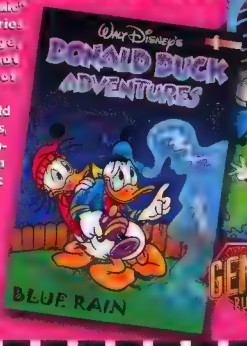
THIS PLACE IS MORE CROWDED THAN THE FREEWAY AT RUSH HOUR!
DINOSAURS, LAW ROBOTS, OTHER ROBOTS...
SOME OF THEM GUARDING MISSILES AND OTHER WEAPONS FROM THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE!
WE'RE TRAPPED! :-SOB!:- WE'LL NEVER SEE OUR HOMES AGAIN!
COME ON, LUNA! YOU SAID IT YOURSELF! WE'LL ESCAPE SOMEHOW!
MEANWHILE—
MY CALCULATIONS ALL SHOW THE SAME! DONALD IS THE CENTRAL CHARACTER HERE!
WHEN HE STARTED UP THE MACHINE HE CREATED A NEW REALITY, SO EVERYTHING TURNS AROUND HIM!
CLICK!
WHICH MEANS THIS WORMHOLE SHOULD LEAD STRAIGHT TO DONALD!
I PROMISE, LUNA, I'LL GET US BOTH OUT OF THIS MESS!
DONALD! BEHIND YOU!

WAK! A FLOATING ARMP! AND IT LOOKS LIKE GYRO'S!
GOODBYE, LUNA! GOOD LUCK!
WAIT! TAKE THIS AS A KEEPSAKE!
KA-
FOFF!
SWAAMP
GOT YOU! SAFE AND SOUND!
LET GO! EVERYTHING'S SPINNING! I'M GONNA BE SICK!

OH HI, GYRO! NICE TO SEE YOU!
YOU TOO, OLD FRIEND!
DONALD TELLS HIS STORY—
...AND THEN YOU SAVED ME! BUT LUNA IS STILL TRAPPED IN THAT PLACE!
DON'T WORRY, DONALD! YOU WERE THE CAUSE OF ALL THIS, REMEMBER?
WHEN YOU DISAPPEARED FROM THAT PLACE, ALL THE OTHER ELEMENTS WENT BACK WHERE THEY CAME FROM!
"THE DINOSAURS TO EARTH'S PAST! THE LAW ROBOTS TO THE FUTURE—"
AND LUNA?
I DON'T KNOW WHERE OR WHEN SHE CAME FROM, BUT SHE HAS TO BE SOMEWHERE, RIGHT?!
THAT'S TRUE, GYRO! THAT'S VERY TRUE!
SO, NOW THAT THAT'S SETTLED—HOW ABOUT MY TOASTER?
GEARLOOSE
Inventions While You Wait
GYRO GEARLOOSE
The End

MORE Disney excitement TO COME!





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Walt Disney's

MICKEY MOUSE

in THE HEADLESS WARRIOR

IT'S SUMMER IN THE CITY, AND A CERTAIN MOUSE IS THINKING OF ESCAPE—

PHEW! IT'S HOT ENOUGH TO FRY AN EGG ON TH' SIDEWALK— IF THAT'S YOUR IDEA OF HAUTE-CUISINE!

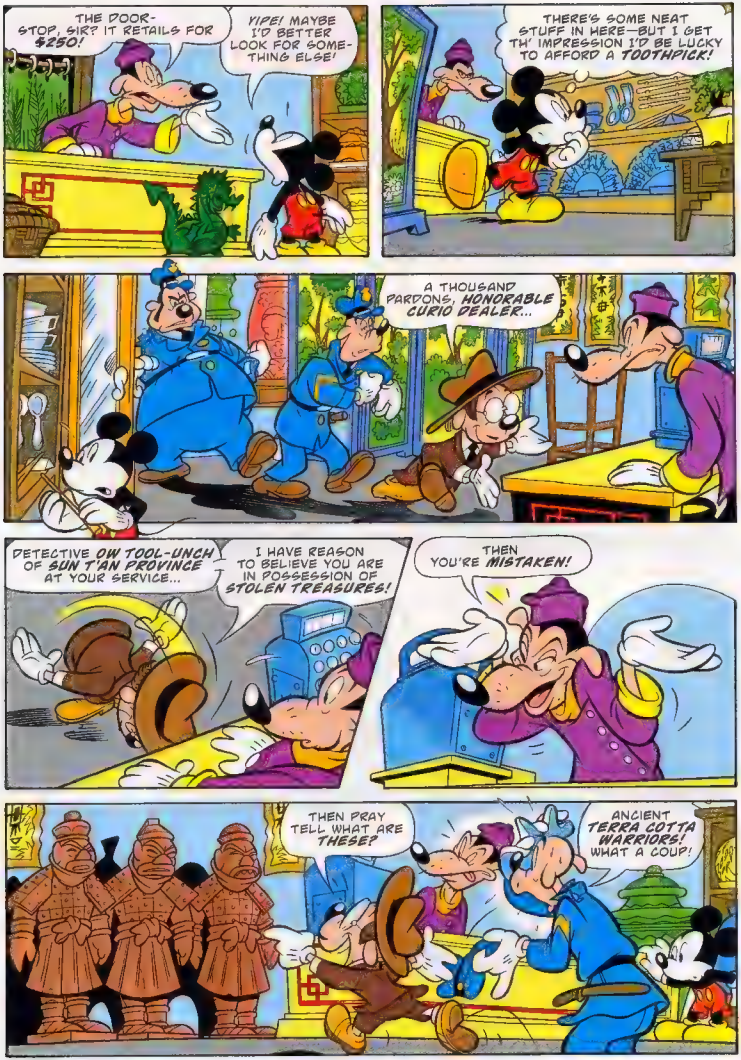
113

© 2001-135

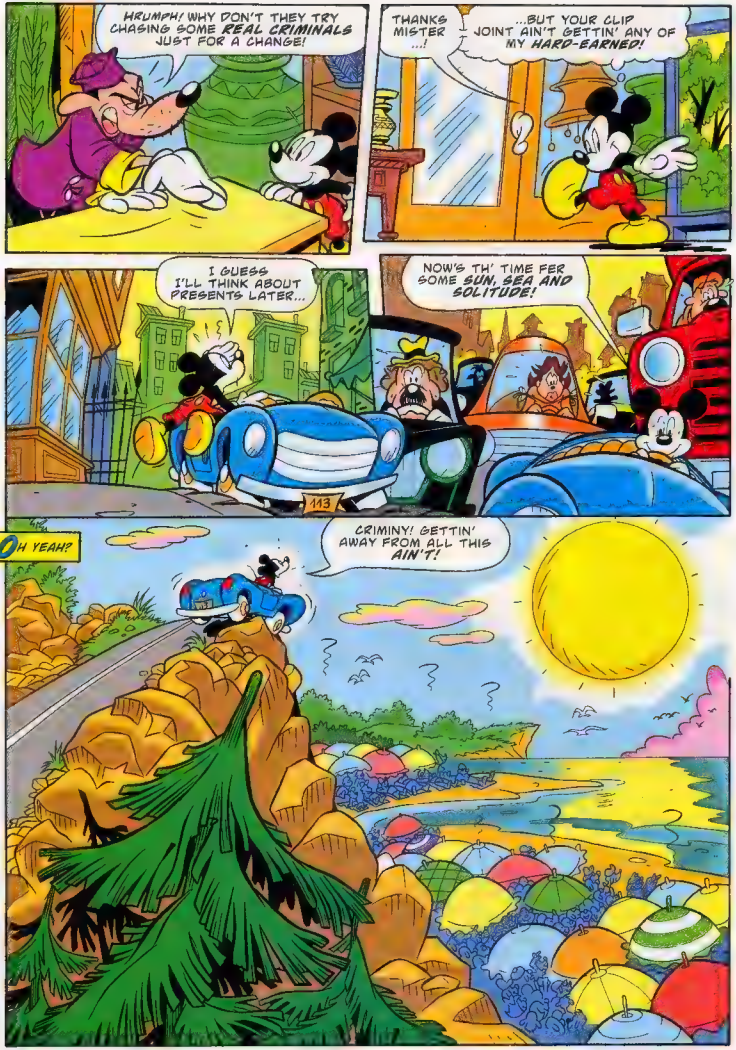
BUT IT'S DOWN TO TH' SEA FOR ME! AN AFTERNOON'S *SNORKELING* SHOULD KEEP ME FROM GETTING TOO HOT UNDER TH' COLLAR!

HMM, THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA..

MINNIE NEEDS A DOOR-STOP, AN' SHE'S A SUCKER FOR ALL THINGS CHINESE! THAT SHOULD BE JUST TH' THING FOR HER *BIRTHDAY* TOMORROW!


THE DOOR-STOP, SIR? IT RETAILS FOR $250!
YIPE! MAYBE I'D BETTER LOOK FOR SOMETHING ELSE!
THERE'S SOME NEAT STUFF IN HERE--BUT I GET TH' IMPRESSION I'D BE LUCKY TO AFFORD A TOOTHPICK!
A THOUSAND PARDONS, HONORABLE CURIO DEALER...
DETECTIVE OW TOOL-UNCH OF SUN T'AN PROVINCE AT YOUR SERVICE...
I HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE YOU ARE IN POSSESSION OF STOLEN TREASURES!
THEN YOU'RE MISTAKEN!
THEN PRAY TELL WHAT ARE THESE?
ANCIENT TERRA COTTA WARRIORS! WHAT A COUP!

THEY HAPPEN TO BE COPIES! THESE DOCUMENTS FROM THE SUN T'AN AUTHORITIES ARE PROOF THEY'RE BONA-FIDE FAKES!
YOU WILL HAVE NO OBJECTION IF I TEST STATUES FOR POROSITY?
NONE WHATSOEVER!
FIRST I CHIP OFF MINUTE FRAGMENT...
THEN I APPLY MOST SCIENTIFIC TEST!
SLURP!
I OWE YOU AN APOLOGY, HONORABLE DEALER! STATUE IS MOST ASSUREDLY GENUINE NEW COPY!
LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE BEEN BARKING UP THE WRONG TREE, DETECTIVE OW!
AS OLD SUN T'AN PROVERB SAYS—YOU CAN'T WIN 'EM ALL!
AGAIN, A THOUSAND PARDONS, HONORABLE DEALER!

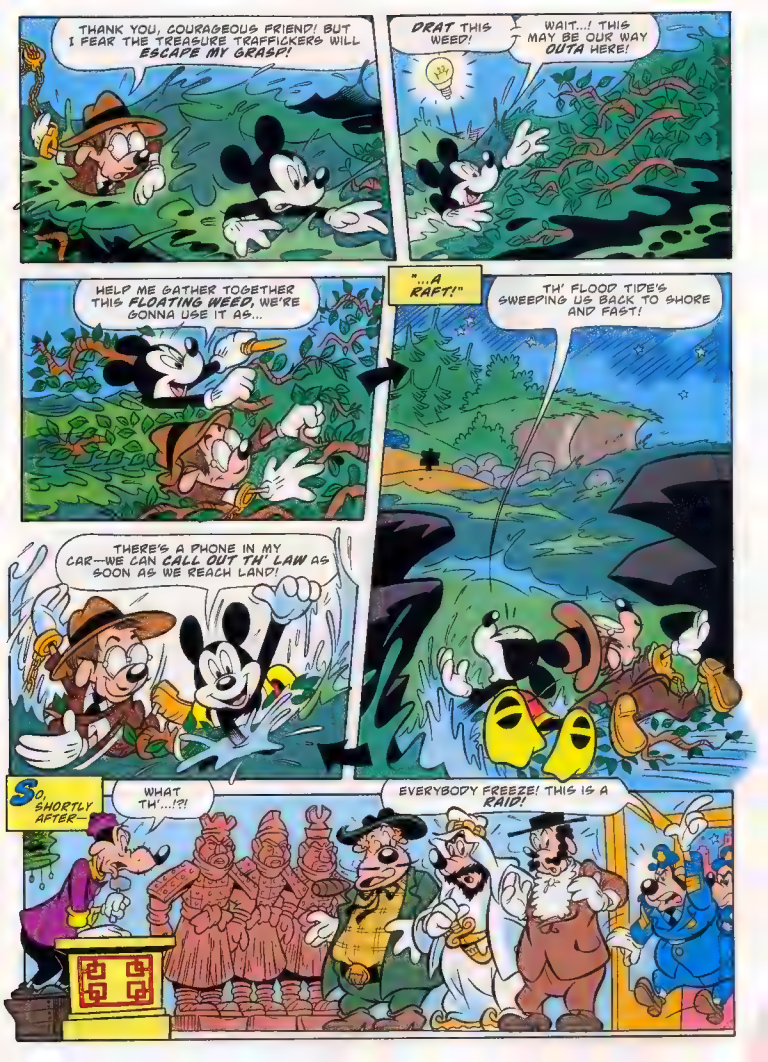

HRUMPH! WHY DON'T THEY TRY CHASING SOME REAL CRIMINALS JUST FOR A CHANGE!
THANKS MISTER ...!
...BUT YOUR CLIP JOINT AIN'T GETTIN' ANY OF MY HARD-EARNED!
I GUESS I'LL THINK ABOUT PRESENTS LATER...
NOW'S TH' TIME FER SOME SUN, SEA AND SOLITUDE!
113
OH YEAH?
CRIMINY! GETTIN' AWAY FROM ALL THIS AIN'T!

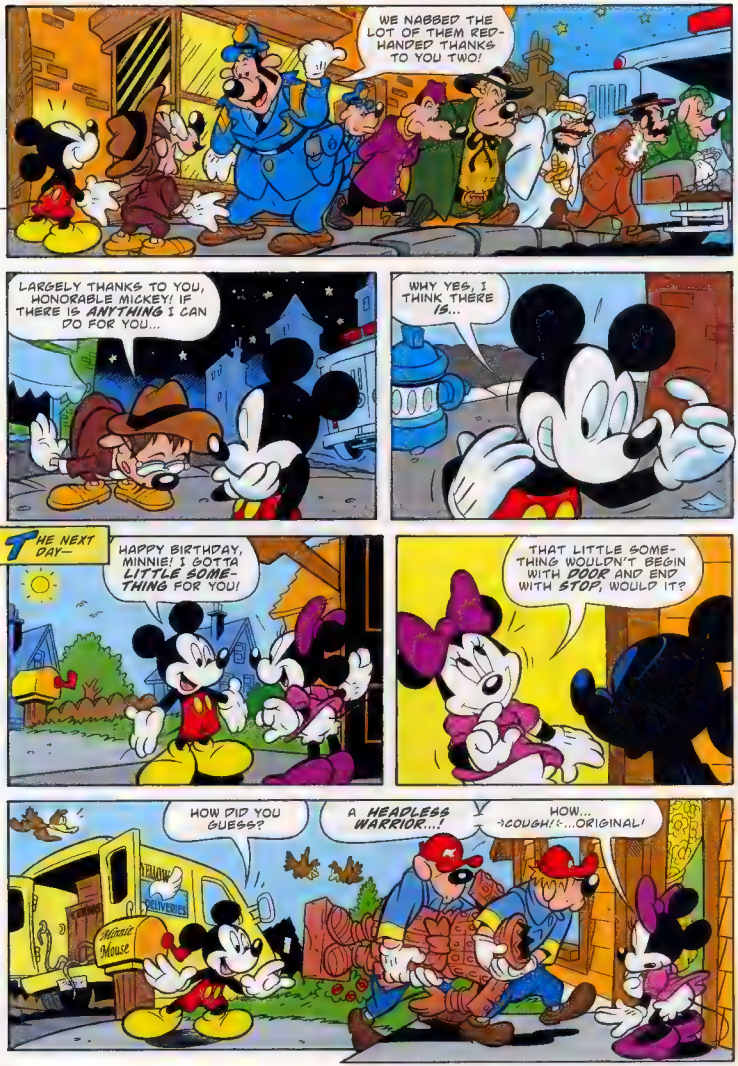
FORTUNATELY I KNOW A SECLUDED SPOT...
...WHERE YOU NEVER SEE ANYONE!
THIS SIGN KEEPS TH' RUBES AWAY—BUT FOR A STRONG SWIMMER LIKE ME, THIS COVE IS PERFECT!
DANGER! STRONG CURRENTS!
PEACE, PERFECT PEACE!
COME TO THINK OF IT, TH' CURRENT IS QUITE STRONG TODAY!
MIGHTY STRONG, IN FACT! GULP!
YIPE! I'M AS HELPLESS AS A LEAF IN A FORCE 10 GALE!

NEXT TIME I WON'T BE SO COCKY! ÷GLUB/:- IF THERE IS A NEXT TIME!
!?
IF I CAN JUST REACH...
MADE IT! ÷PANT/:-
SEEMS I CAN'T GET AWAY FROM TERRA COTTA WARRIORS TODAY! SOMETHING SMELLS FISHIER THAN CODFISH IN ANCHOVY SAUCE!
AH, WELL... AT LEAST I'M SAFE!
BUT I GOTTA ADMIT IT— I'VE BEEN A COMPLETE JERK!
ZZZzzz...

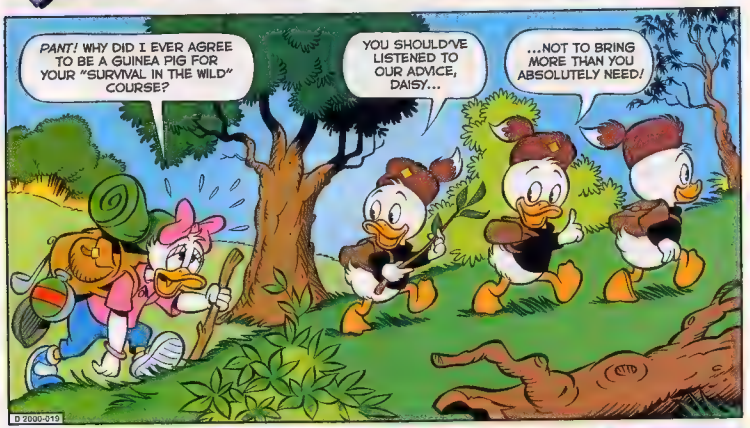
HOURS LATER—
WHU? WHERE AM I? SOMEONE'S COMIN'!
CHUG!
YOWP! WHAT HAPPENED TO TH' WATER? IT MUST BE THE EBB OF A MIGHTY SPRING TIDE!
THIS IS THE SPOT!
SOMETHING TELLS ME THIS IS BUTTON LIP TIME!
YOU GUYS—TOSS OUT THE FAKES AND BRING UP THE GENUINE MERCHANDISE!
TOO BAD YOU HAD TO COME BACK AND SNOOP!
THE COAST GUARD WILL FIND YOU TOMORROW! BUT BY THAT TIME I'LL BE LONG GONE—AND A FEW MILLION DOLLARS RICHER!

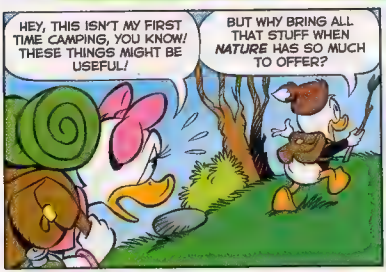
LET'S GET YOU OUTA THERE! TIME'S RUNNIN' SHORT!
THANK YOU, HONORABLE MOUSE, BUT HANDCUFFS GOING TO PROVE ONE TOUGH COOKIE!
I KNEW TRAIL OF STOLEN TERRA COTTA WARRIORS LED TO DISHONORABLE DEALER! NOW HE WILL AUCTION OFF TREASURES AND GET CLEAN AWAY!
THAT AIN'T YOUR ONLY WORRY—TH' TIDE'S COMIN' IN!
BUT DISHONEST DEALER SAID I'D BE SAFE UNTIL MORNING!
MAYBE—BUT HE WASN'T RECKONIN' ON A SPRING TIDE IN FULL FLOOD!
AH, SO... IT IS TIME I GO JOIN MY ANCESTORS!
I'VE STILL GOT ONE ACE UP MY SLEEVE!
CLUMP!
NGH!

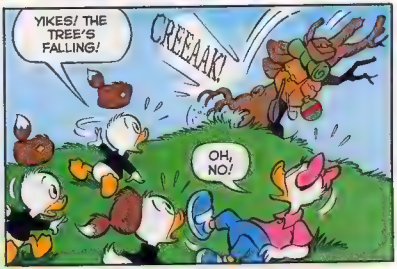

THANK YOU, COURAGEOUS FRIEND! BUT I FEAR THE TREASURE TRAFFICKERS WILL ESCAPE MY GRASP!
DRAT THIS WEED!
WAIT...! THIS MAY BE OUR WAY OUTA HERE!
HELP ME GATHER TOGETHER THIS FLOATING WEED, WE'RE GONNA USE IT AS...
"...A RAFT!"
TH' FLOOD TIDE'S SWEEPING US BACK TO SHORE AND FAST!
THERE'S A PHONE IN MY CAR—WE CAN CALL OUT TH' LAW AS SOON AS WE REACH LAND!
SO, SHORTLY AFTER—
WHAT TH'...!?!
EVERYBODY FREEZE! THIS IS A RAID!

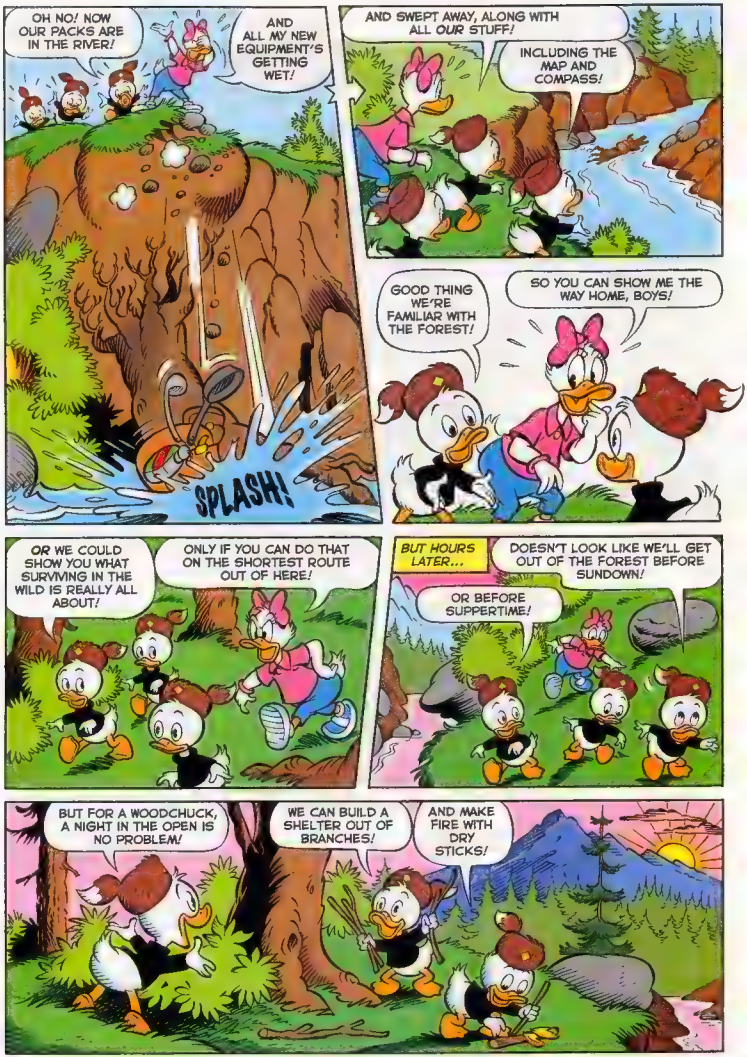

WE NABBED THE LOT OF THEM RED-HANDED THANKS TO YOU TWO!
LARGELY THANKS TO YOU, HONORABLE MICKEY! IF THERE IS ANYTHING I CAN DO FOR YOU...
WHY YES, I THINK THERE IS...
THE NEXT DAY—
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MINNIE! I GOTTA LITTLE SOME-THING FOR YOU!
THAT LITTLE SOME-THING WOULDN'T BEGIN WITH DOOR AND END WITH STOP, WOULD IT?
HOW DID YOU GUESS?
A HEADLESS WARRIOR...!
HOW... COUGH!...ORIGINAL!
PILLOW DELIVERIES
Minnie Mouse

Walt Disney's The JR Woodchucks in Survival in the Wild

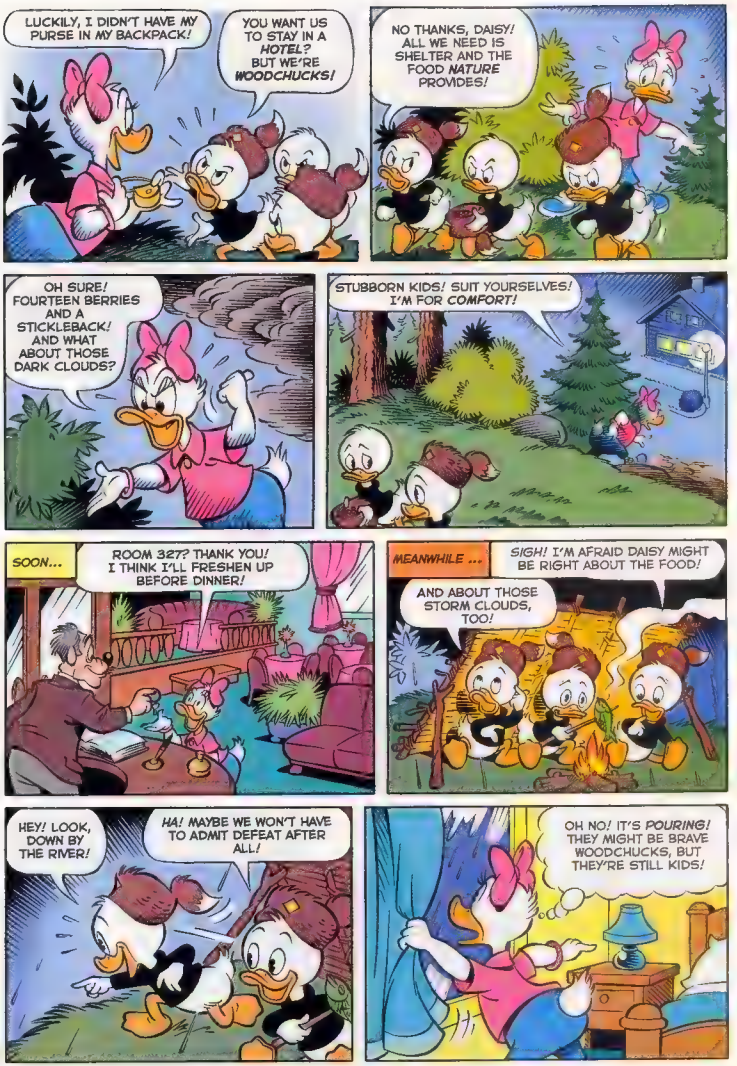

PANT! WHY DID I EVER AGREE TO BE A GUINEA PIG FOR YOUR "SURVIVAL IN THE WILD" COURSE?
YOU SHOULD'VE LISTENED TO OUR ADVICE, DAISY...
...NOT TO BRING MORE THAN YOU ABSOLUTELY NEED!
D 2000-019

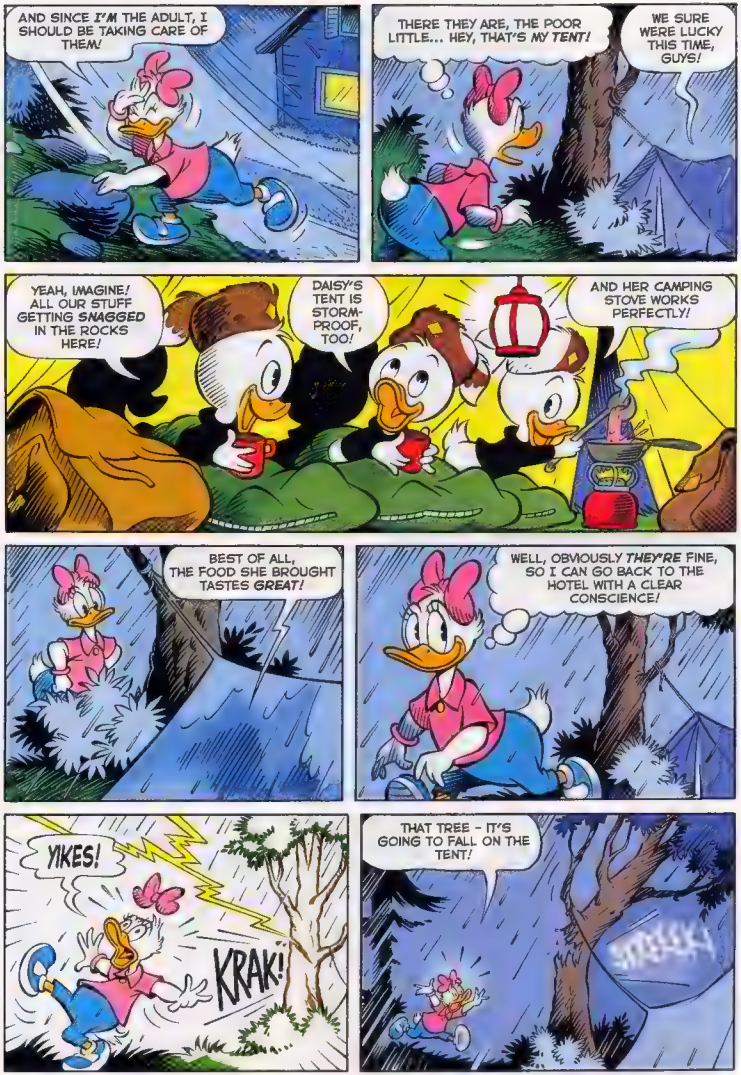

HEY, THIS ISN'T MY FIRST TIME CAMPING, YOU KNOW! THESE THINGS MIGHT BE USEFUL!
BUT WHY BRING ALL THAT STUFF WHEN NATURE HAS SO MUCH TO OFFER?

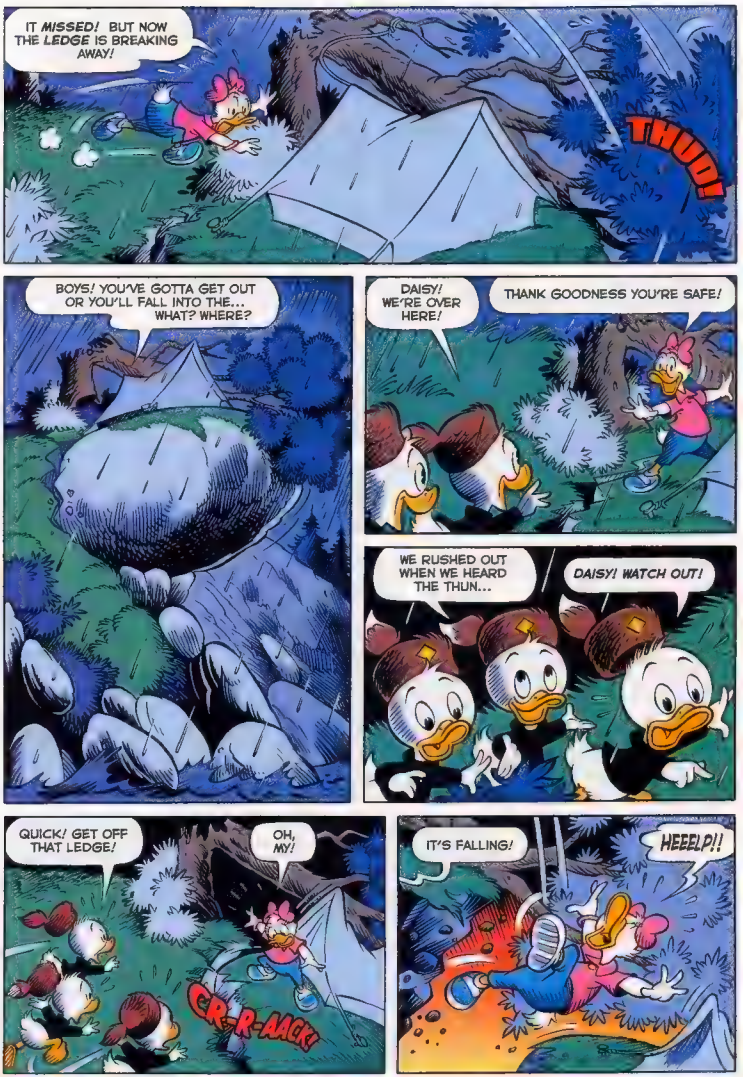


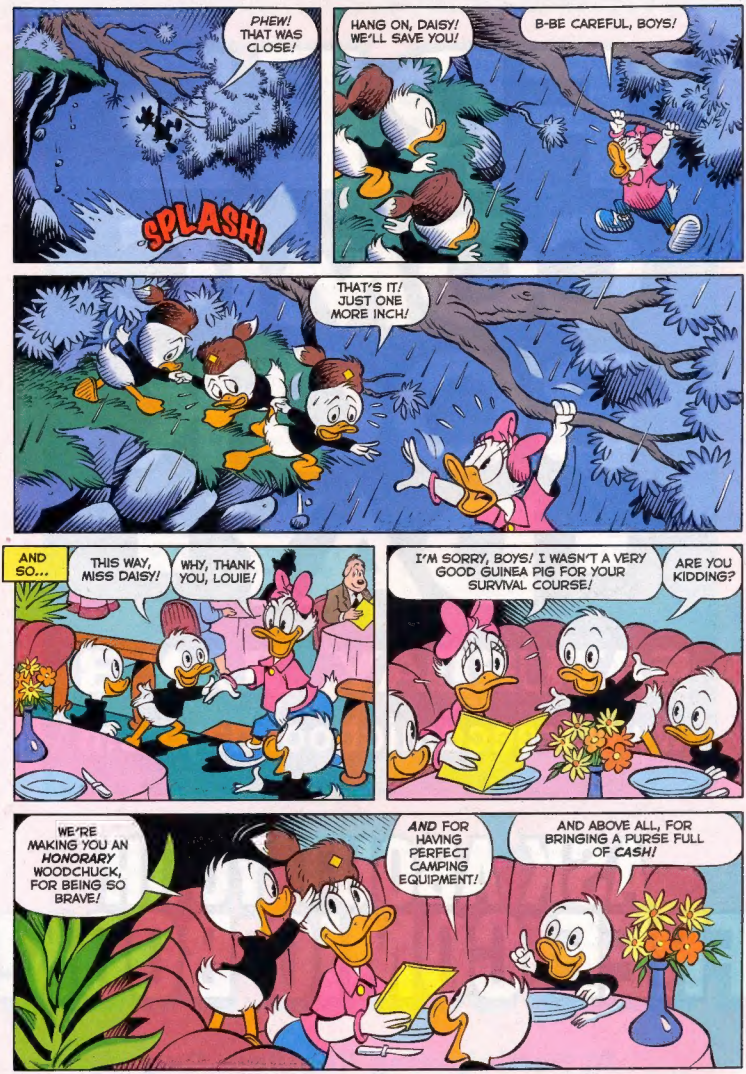

OH NO! NOW OUR PACKS ARE IN THE RIVER!
AND ALL MY NEW EQUIPMENT'S GETTING WET!
SPLASH!
AND SWEPT AWAY, ALONG WITH ALL OUR STUFF!
INCLUDING THE MAP AND COMPASS!
GOOD THING WE'RE FAMILIAR WITH THE FOREST!
SO YOU CAN SHOW ME THE WAY HOME, BOYS!
OR WE COULD SHOW YOU WHAT SURVIVING IN THE WILD IS REALLY ALL ABOUT!
ONLY IF YOU CAN DO THAT ON THE SHORTEST ROUTE OUT OF HERE!
BUT HOURS LATER...
DOESN'T LOOK LIKE WE'LL GET OUT OF THE FOREST BEFORE SUNDOWN!
OR BEFORE SUPPERTIME!
BUT FOR A WOODCHUCK, A NIGHT IN THE OPEN IS NO PROBLEM!
WE CAN BUILD A SHELTER OUT OF BRANCHES!
AND MAKE FIRE WITH DRY STICKS!

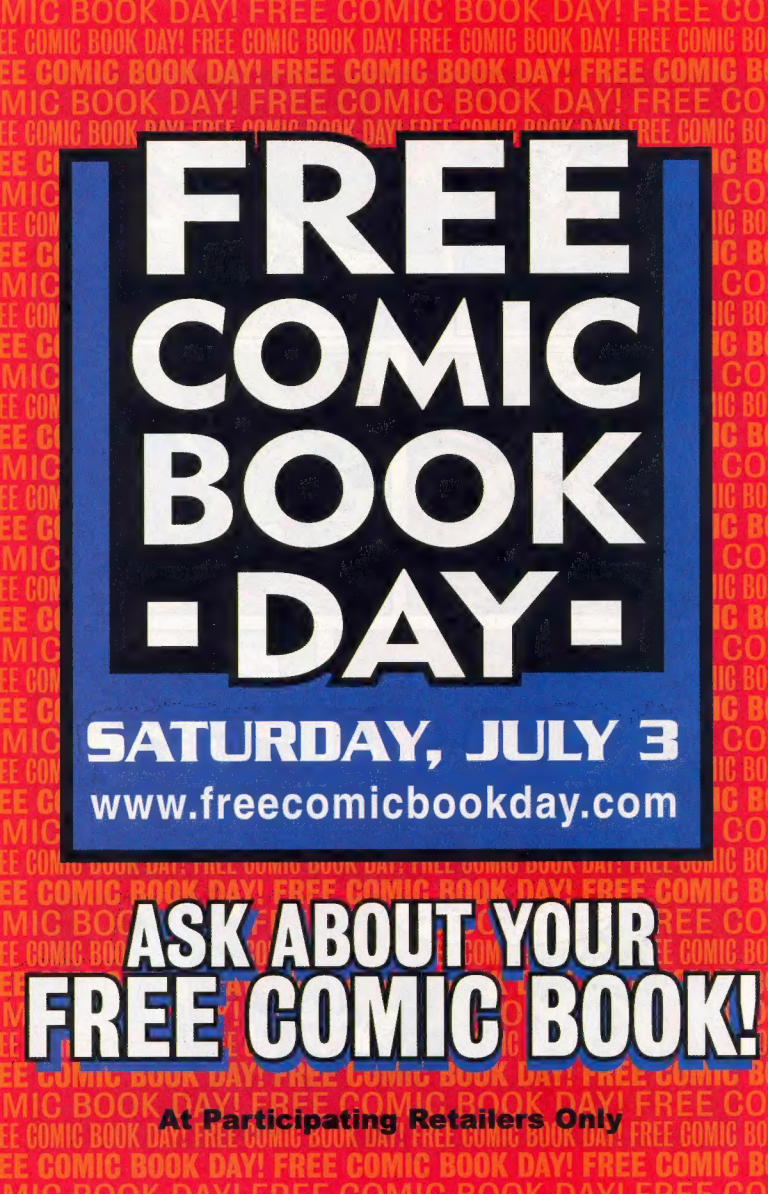
ISN'T THIS A BEAUTIFUL PLACE TO CAMP, DAISY?
PRETTY, YES- BUT WHAT'LL WE EAT?
I'VE GOT SOME STRING AND A HOOK TO CATCH A FISH WITH!
WHY DON'T YOU PICK SOME RASP-BERRIES, DAISY?
LATER...
FOURTEEN BERRIES WON'T FEED FOUR HUNGRY DUCKS! I HOPE HUEY'S CAUGHT SOME FISH!
HM! MAYBE THERE'S ANOTHER HANDFUL ON THAT BUSH!
WAK!
SOON...
WELL, IT WON'T GO FAR, BUT THIS IS ALL I COULD CATCH!
OUR TROUBLES ARE OVER, BOYS! COME AND SEE WHAT I'VE FOUND!
GOOSEBERRY MOUNTAIN HOTEL! WITH SOFT BEDS AND A FOUR-STAR RESTAURANT!
SO THIS IS WHERE WE ARE!


LUCKILY, I DIDN'T HAVE MY PURSE IN MY BACKPACK!
YOU WANT US TO STAY IN A HOTEL? BUT WE'RE WOODCHUCKS!
NO THANKS, DAISY! ALL WE NEED IS SHELTER AND THE FOOD NATURE PROVIDES!
OH SURE! FOURTEEN BERRIES AND A STICKLEBACK! AND WHAT ABOUT THOSE DARK CLOUDS?
STUBBORN KIDS! SUIT YOURSELVES! I'M FOR COMFORT!
SOON...
ROOM 327? THANK YOU! I THINK I'LL FRESHEN UP BEFORE DINNER!
MEANWHILE ...
SIGH! I'M AFRAID DAISY MIGHT BE RIGHT ABOUT THE FOOD!
AND ABOUT THOSE STORM CLOUDS, TOO!
HEY! LOOK, DOWN BY THE RIVER!
HA! MAYBE WE WON'T HAVE TO ADMIT DEFEAT AFTER ALL!
OH NO! IT'S POURING! THEY MIGHT BE BRAVE WOODCHUCKS, BUT THEY'RE STILL KIDS!


AND SINCE I'M THE ADULT, I SHOULD BE TAKING CARE OF THEM!
THERE THEY ARE, THE POOR LITTLE... HEY, THAT'S MY TENT!
WE SURE WERE LUCKY THIS TIME, GUYS!
YEAH, IMAGINE! ALL OUR STUFF GETTING SNAGGED IN THE ROCKS HERE!
DAISY'S TENT IS STORM-PROOF, TOO!
AND HER CAMPING STOVE WORKS PERFECTLY!
BEST OF ALL, THE FOOD SHE BROUGHT TASTES GREAT!
WELL, OBVIOUSLY THEY'RE FINE, SO I CAN GO BACK TO THE HOTEL WITH A CLEAR CONSCIENCE!
YIKES!
KRAK!
THAT TREE - IT'S GOING TO FALL ON THE TENT!
SKREEK!


IT MISSED! BUT NOW THE LEDGE IS BREAKING AWAY!
THUD!
BOYS! YOU'VE GOTTA GET OUT OR YOU'LL FALL INTO THE...
WHAT? WHERE?
DAISY! WE'RE OVER HERE!
THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE SAFE!
WE RUSHED OUT WHEN WE HEARD THE THUN...
DAISY! WATCH OUT!
QUICK! GET OFF THAT LEDGE!
OH, MY!
C-R-R-AACK!
IT'S FALLING!
HEEELP!!


PHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!
SPLASH!
HANG ON, DAISY! WE'LL SAVE YOU!
B-BE CAREFUL, BOYS!
THAT'S IT! JUST ONE MORE INCH!
AND SO...
THIS WAY, MISS DAISY!
WHY, THANK YOU, LOUIE!
I'M SORRY, BOYS! I WASN'T A VERY GOOD GUINEA PIG FOR YOUR SURVIVAL COURSE!
ARE YOU KIDDING?
WE'RE MAKING YOU AN HONORARY WOODCHUCK, FOR BEING SO BRAVE!
AND FOR HAVING PERFECT CAMPING EQUIPMENT!
AND ABOVE ALL, FOR BRINGING A PURSE FULL OF CASH!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LETTERS

DONALD DUCK AND FRIENDS

E-mail: *dd@gemstonepub.com*
Surface mail: *Donald Duck, 1966 Greenspring Drive Ste. 400, Timonium MD 21093.*

It may have taken approximately six decades for a Donald Duck comic book to appear with the number 313, but the March, 2004 issue of *Donald Duck and Friends* now has the distinction of bearing that "magic number." Appropriately, its cover sports an image centered upon Donald's car with its well-known license number of (what else?) 313. Alas, nobody told Huey to…uh, "duck," and his head is blocking two-thirds of the license plate that would have made the cover a perfect tie-in. ARRRGH!!! I hereby sentence this red-capped rapscallion to "doing the family dishes" for the *next* sixty years, for muffing this momentous occasion!

As with most major "surface cities," I suppose it's fittingly cynical to learn that even Atlantis has become surrounded by endless suburbs, dominated by fast food and retail chains, since the Ducks' early-1950s visit there in *Uncle Scrooge* 5. Vicar was the perfect choice to illustrate "The Lost Suburb," as no one can recreate the feel of Carl Barks' art of that period as well as he.

When the ancient Book of Shambor was written, the concept of the "Spoiler Warning" was unknown. I suppose that's why we have a chapter titled: "Despite *low betrayal,* the sword will prevail." Never mind that a backward spelling of Shambor's "traitor in the ranks" results in the word "Ratfink." Me? I'd never trust the fate of a just revolution with someone who so strongly resembles Donald's loutish "Neighbor Jones"! Perhaps Mickey should consult Donald on how to deal with the soon-to-be-flying snowballs, water balloons, and backyard vegetables!

– Joe Torcivia
via email

Actually, Joe, I'll confess that I picked that cover on purpose! It does center on Donald's car and I figured obscuring the actual license plate number would make it more of an in-joke for those of us in the know.

The Shambor tales have reached an end – if not a satisfying conclusion – in these pages for the time being. Writers Pat and Carol McGreal are currently scripting the wrap-up, though, and we will run it as soon as possible. I want to know how it ends too!

My background with Disney comics started in Chad, Africa. This may sound like a weird place to find Disney comics, and it is. The village I lived at didn't even have running water and electricity. You see, my parents were/are missionaries there and I grew up there through the 80s. There were some *Uncle Scrooge* and *Donald Duck* comics out there from the 50s and 60s, I guess left by former missionaries. A friend of my family sent my brother and I Disney comics every month from the states until Gladstone closed the second time. I have since collected back issues and slowly become aware of authors and other things "fans" know about. I was overjoyed when I heard that you were going to print Disney comics again in America. And I have to say that I have been *very* pleased with the quality, stories, writing, color, and nearly everything else.

– Jason Seymour
via email

In *Donald Duck & Friends* 314, you open the floor for discussion about reprinting José Carioca stories. I've actually translated a few of the Dutch-produced ones for Egmont, and I want to say this about that…

The amazing thing about those stories is that the writers haven't realized José is Brazilian, and that they don't speak Spanish in Brazil, they speak Portuguese! So the writers have José and his compadres speaking in mock-Spanish, with Spanish words like *Señor* thrown in (the Portuguese is *Senhor*). So I had to get out my English-Portuguese dictionary and buy a Portuguese phrasebook and fix that little problem. But I have a gnawing feeling it was all completely lost on the readers anyway.

The José short-shorts are trifling little romance comedies, but there was a Donald Duck story that crossed my desk a while back that guest-starred the amorous parrot and it would have made your feathers stand on end. José was treated as a con-artist and cheat and chiseler, barely one step above a criminal, so out of control with his conniving that he was making life miserable for Donald, and the happy ending of the story was basically packing José back to Brazil to get rid of him. While José showed some evidence of having a good heart at bottom, it wasn't exactly a story to demonstrate what great friends Donald and José are.

– Dwight Decker
via email

Thanks for the insight on José. For those of you unfamiliar with Dwight's name, he is an accomplished linguist and a veteran of the Disney comics in his own right. He has in the past been of invaluable assistance in translating comic book scripts from Dutch and Italian for use in the USA.

— John Clark

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MEET THE NOD SQUAD

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THIS JOINT IS JUMPIN'!

SCOOP